

# Commission on Disability Issues (CODI) Minutes Memorandum

Stephen P. Clark Center (SPCC) 111 N.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Miami, Florida 33128 18<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room 18-4

|    | Date:   | Wednesday, January 28, 2015                                 | Wednesday, January 28, 2015 |  |  |
|----|---|---|-----------------------------|--|--|
|    | Time:   | 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.                                       |                             |  |  |
|    | Call to Order Time:   | 1:36 p.m.   |                             |  |  |
|    | Meeting Adjourned:  | 3:45 p.m.   |                             |  |  |
| I. | 1   |   |                             |  |  |
|    | Chairman Gregory emphasized the need for CODI members to inform the ADA Office whether they will attend meetings as soon as they receive meeting notices via email. |   |                             |  |  |
|    | District 1  | Damian Gregory  | Present                     |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Jordan   | CODI Chairman, Employment Committee Chair                   |                             |  |  |
|    | District 2  | Jackson David   | Present                     |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Monestime  | Housing Committee Chair                                     |                             |  |  |
|    | District 3  | Jose Granda   | Present                     |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Edmonson   | Access Committee Chair                                      |                             |  |  |
|    | District 4  | Jesus Garcia  | Present                     |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Heyman   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair & Transportation Committee Chair |                             |  |  |
|    | District 5  | Ernie Martinez  | Present                     |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Barreiro   |   |                             |  |  |
|    | District 6  | Ileana Rodriguez  | Present: arrived at         |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Sosa   |   | 1:46 p.m.                   |  |  |
|    | District 7  | Harry Horgan  | Present                     |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Suarez   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chair & Outreach/Education Chair       |                             |  |  |
|    | District 8  | VACANT APPOINTMENT  |                             |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Levine Cava  |   |                             |  |  |
|    | District 9  | Ronald Fulton   | Present arrived at:         |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Moss   | CODI Secretary  | 2:20 p.m.                   |  |  |
|    | District 10   | VACANT APPOINTMENT  |                             |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Souto  |   |                             |  |  |
|    | District 11   | Maria Orfila  | Absent                      |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Zapata   |   |                             |  |  |
|    | District 12   | Marilyn Larrieu   |                             |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Diaz   | Housing Committee Co-Chair                                  |                             |  |  |
|    | District 13   | Alan Rigerman   | Excused Absence             |  |  |
|    | Commissioner Bovo   |   |                             |  |  |

|      | Miami-Dade Cour<br>Present | Heidi Johnson-Wright, ISD ADA Coordinator   |  |
|------|----------------------------|---|--|
|      |                            | Skarlex Alorda, ISD  ADA Office Support Specialist II  & Recording Secretary  |  |
|      |                            | Shanika Graves, CAO Assistant County Attorney   |  |
|      |                            | Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava, District 8   |  |
|      |                            | Fernando Marquez, PROS Architect 4  |  |
|      |                            | Lucy Binhack, PROS Disability Services Manager  |  |
|      |                            | Marcos Ortega, MDT ADA Officer  |  |
| II.  | Approval of<br>Agenda      | Chairman Gregory requested a motion to approve today's agenda. Jesus Garcia made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Harry Horgan. Motion passed unanimously.  |  |
| III. | Approval of CODI Minutes   | Chairman Gregory requested a motion to approve the November 19, 2014 CODI monthly meeting minutes. Motion made by Harry Horgan and seconded by Ernie Martinez. Motion passed unanimously.   |  |
| IV.  | Old Business               | Attendance Ordinance; Notifying ADA Office of Attendance/Absence  |  |
|      |                            | Chairman Gregory reminded board members to notify the ADA Office by email or phone whether they will or will not attend CODI monthly or committee meetings. Ms. Johnson-Wright reminded the board members of the Miami-Dade County ordinance Sec. 2-11.39 concerning board membership and attendance. |  |
|      |                            | Ms. Johnson-Wright said board members must update for 2015 their contact information with the ADA Office. Skarlex Alorda provided her contact information so CODI members can reach her at: email: <a href="mailto:skarlex@miamidade.gov">Skarlex@miamidade.gov</a> or phone: 305-375-3893.           |  |
| V.   | New                        | Introduction of new board member introduction for District 6 Commissioner   |  |
|      | Business                   | Sosa.   |  |
|      |                            | Ileana Rodriguez stated that she is a practicing architect and a Paralympian. She   |  |

|     |                      | is very enthusiastic about serving on CODI.   |
|-----|----------------------|---|
| VI. | Information<br>Item: | LUCY BINHACK & FERNANDO MARQUEZ: Update on PROS ADA Barrier Removal Plan/Transition Plan  |
|     |                      | Fernando Marquez is the built environment coordinator for Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces. He is the senior capital projects architect who ensures ADA compliance with built environment projects. Lucy Binhack is the ADA Coordinator involved with access to programs and services. Mr. Marquez said that although some of their parks are not 100 percent ADA accessible, most elements are useable by persons with disabilities. Mr. Marquez and Ms. Binhack attended to ask CODI for its support of PROS's \$1.7 million funding request made to the Office of Management and Budget to fund Phase Two of its ADA transition plan, which will make the four main elements of parks 11-20 100 percent accessible. |
|     |                      | Mr. Marquez said that PROS, as part of Phase One, has made four geographically dispersed pools 100 percent compliant. It has also made four main elements parking, path of travel, restrooms, park office in the top 10 parks 100 percent accessible. PROS is currently bringing Haulover Beach into full compliance. PROS has made it a priority to address ADA complaints as they arise.  |
|     |                      | Ms. Johnson-Wright said PROS is a delight to work with and that they have an excellent, well-thought out ADA transition plan.   |
|     |                      | Harry Horgan asked how many parks are in PROS's inventory. Ms. Binhack said there are 260 parks. Some of these parks consist only of open land. Mr. Horgan asked if there is funding for Phase Two. Mr. Marquez said that they seek CODI's approval for this plan for Phase Two so PROS can secure the \$1.7 million in funding needed to carry it out.   |
|     |                      | Chairman Gregory asked if PROS has surveyed the disability community for input on this matter. Ms. Binhack said surveys have been done: one via telephone and the other online.   |
|     |                      | Jose Granda asked about the Haulover Beach project. The accessible tunnel is finished and they are working on the parking lot.  |
|     |                      | Dr. Haynes said that some people in the disabled community are mentioned not familiar with PROS. He asked if they could do more community outreach. Ms. Binhack said PROS would welcome an invitation from community groups.  |
|     |                      | Furthermore Chairman Gregory asked Mr. Marquez how CODI could assist PROS   |

in obtaining funding. Mr. Marquez said a letter would be appreciated. Jackson David asked when do they need the letter. Mr. Marquez said that they are currently doing their capital budget for FY 15-16, so the earlier the better.

**MOTION:** CODI will write a letter from Chairman Gregory to PROS Director Jack Kardys supporting PROS's \$1.7 million funding request made to the Office of Management and Budget to fund Phase Two of the ADA transition plan. Motion made by Jackson David and seconded by Harry Horgan. Motion passed unanimously.

## **COMMISSIONER LEVINE CAVA: Resolution for the Busway and STS**

Commissioner Levine Cava introduced herself to the CODI members. She said she is seeking CODI's support for a resolution she is sponsoring. It is a resolution authorizing STS vehicles to operate on the South Miami-Dade busway.

Commissioner Levine Cava said she spoke with the County Attorney who drafted a resolution. The item will be on the next BCC Transit Committee meeting agenda.

Ernie Martinez asked the commissioner if trolleys would use the busway. She said that, because of differences in trolley service, they would not use the busway.

Mr. Martinez said he supports the resolution and Mr. Horgan agreed.

**MOTION:** Jesus Garcia requested a motion to approve the Resolution. Jesus Garcia made a motion to support Commissioner Levine Cava's resolution, which was seconded by Jackson David. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. David requested that Commissioner Levine Cava assign a staff member to attend CODI meetings and she agreed. Furthermore Commissioner Levine Cava introduced her Chief of Community Engagement Adele Bagley and her Legislative Director focusing on Economic Development & Opportunity, Jason Smith. Commissioner Levine Cava stated that Elizabeth Merkling will be her appointee to CODI.

## **Chairman Report: STS Transportation Service & Assignments**

Chairman Gregory said that the low attendance at the Special Transportation Service (STS) riders' meetings is not acceptable. He will be sending out the 2015 riders' meeting schedule to attract more attendees. The meetings now alternate on a monthly basis between afternoons and evenings. Mr. Garcia said this schedule was requested by the board. Mr. Horgan suggested that bimonthly and or quarterly meetings would be a better approach.

Mr. Velez said the meetings are held to allow riders to voice concerns and opinions and to bring issues to light. Mr. Horgan asked if individuals can call in to the meetings and Mr. Velez confirmed that they can. A discussion ensued.

Ronald Fulton raised the issue of rider recertification. Mr. Velez it's an expensive undertaking since there are more than 35,000 riders. No riders can be singled out or excluded. It would cost approximately \$1.2 million. Ms. Johnson-Wright said that communications sent to all riders must be available in alternate formats, such as email for riders who are blind and use screen-reading software.

### VII. | Action Item:

#### **CODI OFFICER ELECTIONS**

Nominating Committee Chairman Harry Horgan read Article VI (Elections and Terms of Office) and Section 1 (Duties of Officers) from the CODI by-laws.

Mr. Horgan said that the slate of officer nominees is as follows:

- For Chairman: Ernie Martinez and Damien Gregory
- For First Vice-Chairman: Harry Horgan
- For Second Vice-Chairman: Jesus Garcia
- For Secretary: Ronald Fulton and Damian Gregory

Mr. Fulton voiced his opinion that there should not be a re-election. Mr. Granda said that, because of the lack of effective communication during the last election, it would be discriminatory if he was unable to vote again. A discussion ensued.

Ms. Graves addressed Mr. Granda's remarks, saying that Mr. Granda needs to raise communications issues when they arise.

**MOTION:** Ronald Fulton made a motion to reconsider the previous vote to reconsider. Chairman Gregory seconded. **Motion failed.** 

**MOTION:** Harry Horgan made a motion to nominate the following members for the following offices:

- Ernie Martinez for Chairman
- Damian Gregory for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair
- Jesus Garcia for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair
- Ronald Fulton for Secretary.

Motion was seconded by Jesus Garcia. Motion passed.

|                       | <ul> <li>A final vote was taken. The results for the election of CODI officers are:</li> <li>Chairman: Ernie Martinez.</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair: Damian Gregory</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair: Jesus Garcia</li> <li>Secretary: Ronald Fulton</li> </ul> |
|-----------------------|---|
| Adjournment           | Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.  |
| Next CODI<br>Meeting: | The next CODI meeting will be held February 25, 2015.   |